



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 31, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 26 totaled an estimated 17.9 billion ton-miles, 3.2 percent above the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 43 weeks of 1985 was an estimated 733.9 billion ton-miles, down 4.7 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 26 totaled 390,788, up 5.3 percent from last year, but 0.4 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 21.4 percent in the East and 0.7 percent in the West, but down 2.4 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 14 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, coal loadings were up by 18,409 cars (19.4 percent) and grain showed a gain of 2,455 cars (10.2 percent). Eleven of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 19 totaled 91,703 trailers and/or containers, 2.3 percent below the corresponding week of 1984.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 42 weeks of the year was 3,637,805 trailers and/or containers, down 1.8 percent from 1984.

(more)

*Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/26/85:

	<u>Loadings in</u> <u>Week ended</u> <u>October 26, 1985</u>			<u>Change from</u> <u>Corresponding</u> <u>Week 1984</u>		<u>Change from</u> <u>Preceding</u> <u>Week</u>	
	Cars			Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent
Grain	26,494	I		2,455	10.2	I	1,572 6.3
Other farm products	4,204	D		541	11.4	I	20 0.5
Metallic ores	16,873	I		3,477	26.0	I	2,828 20.1
Coal	113,533	I		18,409	19.4	D	2,749 2.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,443	D		156	1.1	D	453 3.3
Nonmetallic minerals	9,842	D		2,370	19.4	D	1,932 16.4
Grain mill products	10,961	I		379	3.6	I	42 0.4
Food and kindred products	11,583	I		300	2.7	I	229 2.0
Primary forest products	11,208	D		2,041	15.4	D	90 0.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,003	D		164	2.3	I	101 1.5
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,397	D		1,637	10.9	I	58 0.4
Chemicals and allied products	23,416	D		33	0.1	D	398 1.7
Petroleum products	4,521	D		23	0.5	D	176 3.7
Stone, clay and glass products	10,277	D		598	5.5	D	421 3.9
Coke	4,743	D		220	4.4	D	16 0.3
Metals and products	7,715	D		188	2.4	I	121 1.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,131	I		1,490	7.6	D	609 2.8
Waste and scrap materials	8,586	D		319	3.6	D	188 2.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,898	D		1,062	13.3	I	422 6.5
All other carloads	64,780	I		2,364	3.8	I	147 0.2
LCL traffic	180	D		15	7.7	I	17 10.4
Total Cars Loaded	390,788	I		19,507	5.3	D	1,475 0.4

Corresponding week of 1984

371,281

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Total Cars Loaded (43 weeks)	16,150,270	17,036,842	D 5.2

Estimated revenue ton-miles
(in billions):

42 Weeks ended October 19	715.9	752.8	D 4.9
Week ended October 26	17.9	17.4	I 3.2
43 weeks cumulative	733.9	770.2	D 4.7